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USSR Report

POLITICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL AFFAIRS

No. 1212

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INTERNATIONAL

TAJIKS CONDEMN SOVIET-GERMAN EMIGRE

Dushanbe KOMMUNIST TADZHIKISTANA In Russian 6 Oct 81 p 4

[Article by M. Lebedev: "With an Alien Voice About His Country"]

[Text] Meeting me at the entrance to the court building, Artur Marsal's relatives said with words full of meaning, as if in warning: "Let us see what you write about how Germans are being oppressed here."

This was an open challenge. The remark had to be understood this way: the accused is not guilty of anything, his trial is an act of oppression, and I, a journalist, would not be able under any circumstances to be objective.

Had this not been said in passing, but in a serious conversation, I would have attempted to object and would have referred at least to the publications of my journalist colleagues which describe very very many toilers of German nationality who work and live honestly and who enjoy deserved prestige and universal respect. Are examples and names necessary? Leaf through any newspaper. But if someone breaks the law, he has to answer to the law. What has nationality to do with this?

The four days during which Marsal's case was heard in the October People's Court of the city of Dushanbe contained a great deal. Step by step the stream of witnesses' testimony and the documents which were made public during the trial revealed the accused's guilt. The former senior geologist at the Tajik branch of the All-Union Petroleum Scientific Research Institute of Geological Exploration Artur Marsal was accused and convicted of the systematic dissemination of deliberately false fabrications discrediting the Soviet state and social system.

Not only was the extent of Marsal's guilt revealed at the trial, but also the circumstances which led him onto the paths of slander and of hostile actions bordering on betrayal of the homeland. With the example of the defendant you can once again convince yourself that a person who has lost his sense of responsibility to his homeland inevitably winds up in the camp of its enemies.

Artur did not differ in any way from his contemporaries in the village of Landava in Varvarinskiy Rayon, Nikolayevskaya Oblast. His childhood was passed during the hard years of the war. It was hard for him, as for everybody else, afterwards when the country was healing its wounds.

The time came and he did his service in the army. With his weapon in his hands he took the oath and swore fidelity to his fatherland. There is no reason to doubt that he performed his military duty honorably. He was discharged into the reserve as a senior sergeant--evidence of the fact that no one "oppressed" him, as Marsal frequently repeated at the trial in describing his relations with the administration of the All-Union Petroleum Scientific Research Institute of Geological Exploration.

After the service he went into geology. He, a worker in a geological group, was sent to study in one of the country's central vuzes. After graduating from the Moscow Institute of the Petrochemical and Gas Industry 13 years ago, he returned to Tadzhikistan. In a relatively short period of time he became a senior geologist, and not anywhere, but in a scientific research institution.

There are many such biographies. Marsal's nationality in no way influenced and could not have influenced his fate. He studied, served, and worked, like everybody else.

But sometime ago Marsal decided that those around him were not looking at life as, in his opinion, that should be, and he made up his mind to "open their eyes for them." He persistently involved people in conversations which discredited our reality. Whether it was a question of the Constitution, of elections, or of the events in Afghanistan, he, according to the testimony of his fellow workers, was unstinting in pouring dirt on the Soviet system. One of his female fellow workers was compelled to go to the administration and state: "When are you going to give me an extra ration of milk because of the harmfulness of Marsal's speeches?"

Rejecting and blackening Soviet reality, he did not conceal his sympathies for the way of life in the Federal Republic of Germany where he intended to go with his family. He has complained in all seriousness that living in the USSR he has been compelled to give up the right to "travel to Paris, London, and Rio, to visit Greece and Egypt," whereas from the Federal Republic of Germany, at any time of the day or night and without any permission, one can go to all four corners of the earth."

Marsal makes comparisons between the country which raised him and foreign lands over a wide spectrum--from questions of personal freedom to military problems. And in every case his opinions are unambiguous: here it is bad, there it is good. He is touched by the fact, for example, that "the Federal Republic of Germany does not have expensive thermonuclear weapons in the armaments of its army," although he is compelled here to admit that "the necessity for the USSR to have them does not give rise to any doubts."

We shall not set forth everything that has been written and said by Artur Marsal, especially since there is nothing original in his opinions and judgements. All of this has been relished in different manners in the broadcasts of the different radio voices, including the "Deutsche Welle" with which Marsal established special relations, which will be discussed in more detail below. Slander is called slander because it distorts the facts and turns everything topsy-turvy.

As a person who follows the press, Marsal probably knows how much and with what the NATO countries are armed. According to the testimony of the West German magazine STERN, "in its saturation with nuclear weapons the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany has no equals in the world." One can also object concerning trips "to all four corners." The well-known reactionary West Germany newspaper VOLK AUF DEM WEG states that in the Polish and Soviet embassies in Bonn alone consideration is being given to more than 2,300 applications by German citizens who wish to return to their former places of residence, to their true homeland which they hastily abandoned.

As we see, even in the anti-Soviet chorus of foreign voices Artur Marsal heard only what he wished to hear. This is the essential fact. Taking his "arguments" from doubtful sources, he spread them among the people around him, which could not but cause indignation among them.

A complaint addressed to the chief of the Administration of Internal Affairs of the Dushanbe gorispolkom from Mozer is instructive in this respect. "I ask you to stop the activities of Marsal who is agitating people with his talk and actions, which is doing harm to the Soviet state." In order to realize his intentions Marsal sought support from his relatives. In particular, he made great efforts to get the "blessings" of his wife's parents, fearing all kinds of material claims from them. Even at the trial he repeated over and over again: "If we owe something, tell us. We are ready to pay it, return it, give it back."

It is not difficult to understand the parents, former front-line fighters and communists, who will not approve the unreasoned desire of their daughter to join her husband in abandoning her homeland. No, she will not receive her parents' agreement for this. And how is it possible to seek the understanding and sympathy of parents when you have forgotten your duty to them, just as you have forgotten your duty to your country! To abandon your father and mother and break your ties with them, and still ask for their help in this. Complete moral blindness!

At the trial Marsal tried to lessen his guilt and to escape responsibility. He did not remember that, he said, and in some things, he said, he was incorrectly understood. But there was no way he could deny the letters which were made public during the hearing. They were addressed to him, and they speak about him.

What kind of letters are these? Let us cite some passages. A certain Otto Getz from Wetzlar (FRG) writes: "Next, Artur, I want to tell you that today I received your news which you have passed on to me.... Everything will soon be broadcasted on the "Deutsche Welle," you can rest assured of that.... I am making photo copies of some things, but the whole of it will go where it is supposed to go."

Another letter from a certain Nikolay Barkovskiy from Nurnberg: "Perhaps, I will select some things from your letters for the press. I am not an influential person here, but my first works have already been published and more will be published. Therefore, I have a request: write more about yourself."

Marsal did not say anything persuasive about these letters. But one does not have to possess especial keenness to understand what kind of "news" he supplied to his

foreign protege and what kind of purpose he was pursuing with his letters. Apparently, he was very worried that they should get "where they were supposed to go," if he was assured so assiduously that "you can rest assured about this."

Whether Marsal wished to or not, he began to collaborate with mass information media which are conducting the most shameless propaganda against our country. He was entirely satisfied that the information provided by him would be heard on the "Deutsche Welle"--that madam of the radio with a well-known reputation, one of whose directors, Walter Steiger, has cynically stated: "Our ideas have to be pushed through into the public life of the communist countries by all means, without our disdaining neither sly psychological methods nor friendliness and sympathy for those whom in reality we hate."

Such is the logic of the fall of anyone who chooses the slippery path of slander. First he uses someone else's voice about his country, and then he himself joins the chorus of those who day and night pour dirt on our country, on our reality, on our way of life. Artur Marsal has traveled this road, crossing over the threshold of the law.

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CSO: 1830/169

INTERNATIONAL

TURKMENS VISIT SWEDEN FOR SOVIET FESTIVAL

Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 13 Dec 81 p 4

[Article: "Turkmenistan Emissaries in Sweden"]

[Text] The USSR Days in which the Turkmen SSR is participating are continuing in Sweden. They began on 16 October with a festive ceremony in the city of Karlstad and will continue until the middle of January 1982.

Our correspondent met with the writer R.M. Esenov who is the leader of the delegation from the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship with Foreign Countries which is participating in these events and the chairman of the presidium of the Turkmen Society for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries and asked him to describe what has been happening.

--We made careful preparations for the days when we would be demonstrating the achievements of Soviet Turkmenistan in economic and social construction in Sweden, --R.M. Esenov said. "Our republic was visited by four groups of emissaries from the Union of "Sweden-Soviet Union" Societies which took part in selecting the displays for the exhibits. The mock-up of the 1,100 kilometer Karakum Canal which provides life-giving moisture to the desert which occupies 4/5 of the territory of our republic was of great interest. The development of Turkmen culture was described by hand-made rugs, jewelry, paintings by national artists, works of literature, and also documentary films made by "Turkmenfil'm."

The basic official events took place with the participation of our delegation,-- R.M. Esenov continued. "In addition to Stockholm, we also visited the cities of Landskrona, Malmo, and Goteborg. And everywhere we were given a warm and cordial reception."

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CSO: 1830/170

LIMITATIONS ON SOVIET DEMOGRAPHIC PLANNING DISCUSSED

Moscow OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI in Russian No 6, 1981 pp 31-45

[Article by Prof Aleksandr Ya. Kvasha, doctor of economic sciences, deputy head of the Center for the Study of Population Problems, Moscow State University imeni M. V. Lomonosov Economic Department. Author of the monographs "Problemy Ekonomiko-Demograficheskogo Razvitiya SSSR" [Problems of USSR Economic-Demographic Development]. "Demograficheskiy Optimum" [Demographic Optimum] and "Populyarnaya Demografiya" [Popular Demography]. The present article is based on the monograph "Demograficheskaya Politika v SSSR" [USSR Demographic Policy], Finansy i Statistika, Moscow, 1981]

[Text] Throughout its development, society has influenced demographic phenomena. In most cases, however, this influence had no particular direction, especially in the past, when the nature of demographic processes could be radically changed under the influence of socioeconomic changes made in the absence of demographic policy measures. We cannot say that such changes were purely spontaneous and "unplanned," since as a whole the nature of demographic changes was consistent (naturally, with time intervals) with the general trends in the changes of social phenomena. It was precisely such changes that affected demographic phenomena and controlled them indirectly. Frequently, however, there were no control objectives in such cases and the effect of this influence was lessened because of the lack of special measures.

The next stage in controlling demographic phenomena occurs when society takes special steps leading to the establishment of a desired long-term type of population reproduction based on the understanding of general trends of economic and population development. This is a higher, a more complex control stage. Naturally, in this case we must take into consideration the characteristics of the social, historical and demographic development of the country or parts of it.

Like any system of control measures, the set of demographic policy measures can be successfully implemented only if the objective is defined with sufficient precision. It is a question not only of one or another theoretical formulation but specific parameters of the desired condition of the controlled object. As regards population reproduction processes, such a definition of tasks is particularly necessary, for demographic policy objectives are a part, an element of the system which controls the influence of society over socioeconomic processes as a whole. Therefore, a deviation of the real parameters of demographic processes from the most desirable ones from the viewpoint of long-term social interests complicates the management of the entire social system.

The definition of the most desirable, i.e., of the optimal condition of the subsystem which, in our case, is the type of population reproduction, inevitably raises the question of the criteria of optimum development of the entire social system, the demographic processes and furthermore the population as a whole. Each of these components is in itself a rather complex phenomenon.¹ Therefore, it is also a question of so-called external criteria, i.e., general criteria of the development of the socioeconomic system as a whole and of subordinated internal criteria of the development of the demographic subsystem. Consequently, it is essentially a question of the hierarchical scale of criteria. In this sense, the general criterion of social development is a combination of the effects of the other criteria.²

However, because of the variety of relations between the demographic system and other socioeconomic phenomena, a variety of frequently conflicting criteria exists, particularly if we ignore the general criterion when we make comparisons among them. For this reason, the choice of parameters for the optimum type of population reproduction from the positions of a single (economic, for example) criterion, which is entirely acceptable from the methodological viewpoint with a view to simplifying the analysis, may lead in real life to inaccurate and even erroneous assessments.

However, what makes this situation easier is the fact that from the positions of the general trends of population development, the range of variations within demographic processes, particularly in the case of the birth rate, is quite limited on a long-term basis. Therefore, the parameter of the type of reproduction preferable from the viewpoint of long-term social interests is essentially within the range of a relatively small area--the family with few children. The size of this family is further reduced if we take into consideration the complex and comprehensive set of essentially negative consequences of reduced population reproduction. Nevertheless, the problem of defining the parameters of the most desirable, i.e., the optimal type of reproduction remains quite difficult. This is also explained by the fact that in selecting the objective of the demographic policy, it is a question of defining the parameters of the long-term steady nature of population reproduction.

The stability of the parameters of the optimum population reproduction type is of great importance from the viewpoint of demographic policy, for if they change frequently, the effectiveness of a demographic policy becomes unrealistic from the socioeconomic and psychological viewpoints. The use of various reserves which would enable us to compensate for change in objectives, in the field of economics, for example, becomes virtually impossible in terms of the population and, particularly, its "natural reproduction."

The concept of optimum in general and of demographic optimum in particular is frequently used in the study of the processes of change in the real condition of the system in the desired direction. This is important in terms of assessing the effectiveness of demographic policy. In our case, it is a question of the process of optimizing all population reproduction components.³

As we know, the most general interpretation of the term "optimum" as a scientific category is that it is a combination of the most favorable conditions for the functioning and development of a system. Let us emphasize that in a complex and comprehensive system such as society and its economy, there is a basic trend toward the establishment of

an effective system for the functioning, for the optimal intensiveness of various processes and for reaching the most efficient proportions among its subsystems. These laws are manifested only as a trend and the socialist society can apply measures for the acceleration (or slowdown) of said processes on the basis of a proper concept regarding the criteria and parameters of optimal development.

The existence of a single social production target is a necessary but insufficient prerequisite for the existence of an optimum in general and a demographic optimum in particular. Another major prerequisite is the existence of various alternatives in the development of this system. In our case, this involves the possible existence of various development alternatives for various types of population dynamics which, as we know, may change their intensiveness differently, as well as variants of population quality changes.

Some population structures, including the education and, particularly, the professional, are the most variable and dynamic. The population distribution in the country may change as well. The optimum correlation among these structures and their ties with the processes of population dynamics is a separate topic.⁴ It is in these areas that the problem of time gaps between decision-making and the creation of such a structure appear most acutely. It is a question of defining optimum criteria and parameters from the positions of the future and the requirements not only of scientific and technical progress but of many social aspects as well. Today, what matters to us is that essentially such structures can be quite flexible.

The age-sex structure holds a special position among the other demographic structures. As we know (excluding the influence of exceptional events such as wars and other social upheavals), it is determined mainly by the dynamics in the past and varies little from the exogenous viewpoint. In other words, this structure can be changed in the course of time on the national scale only by changes in the parameters of natural dynamics.

As a whole, we may assume that many population structures have substantial flexibility, for which reason the optimizing approach is possible in this case. However, since the development of the quality of the population is manifested largely through the dynamics of demographic structures, it may be assumed that the dynamics of population quality may not only vary in terms of intensiveness but may become internally different as a result of the different speeds with which demographic structures change.

The situation involving purely demographic phenomena--population natural and migration dynamics--is somewhat different. Here, as we know, the possibilities of variations in the parameters of demographic processes vary quite substantially from one type of population dynamic to another.

The least variable under current conditions, i.e., after the conversion to small families, is the birth rate dynamics. A number of studies⁵ indicate that the transition to a small (1-3 children) family is historically inevitable. It is precisely within such a family that we should seek the parameters of the optimum type of reproduction from the position of the birth rate in a first approximation. After that, the search is considerably narrowed, as we pointed out, if we proceed from the premise that reduced reproduction cannot be considered optimal. In this case, the theoretically possible alternatives in birthrate processes are quite limited, for they apply (if it is a question of a small family) only to the two- or three-child family. Once again, this

is providing that a birthrate level which ensures a slightly increased population reproduction is considered optimal. Therefore, the possibility of variations in birthrate processes is quite limited from the standpoint of the purely optimizing approach.

However, this applies to the period during which the transition to a low birthrate has been completed. Wherever the process is continuing or beginning, the pace of changes in the birthrate may be quite substantial. However, this is a transitional stage in the development of the birthrate, for which reason the optimizing approach is hardly applicable here.

If the optimal type of birthrate is approached as a target of demographic policy, the problem can be resolved by taking two important aspects into consideration. First, the most desirable type of birthrate in terms of intensiveness can be singled out only as an element of the optimal type of reproduction as a whole, i.e., it is necessary to take into consideration the existing mortality rate and, in some areas, the migration rate. Secondly, the definition of the parameters of the optimal birthrate type and, therefore, the set of demographic policy measures, must be consistent with the actually existing demographic situation. Thus, although a relatively low birthrate is desirable and is the only possible one, demographic policy measures cannot be used with a view to artificially accelerating a decline in the birthrate in areas where its level is high, for this would clash with the very essence of socialist social and national policy.

As to mortality rate processes, the development variability here is quite rigidly limited by the possibilities of medicine, the pace of development of health care organs, and the possibility of extensively applying new scientific achievements in medical practice.

The migration processes are far more variable under the influence of socioeconomic factors. They can change not only in terms of quantity but direction, age-sex and educational-professional structure of the migrating population, i.e., quality changes within them could be considerable. Such changes could take place far more quickly compared with the dynamics of other components of demographic processes.

Therefore, the different elements of demographic processes have different variability levels. However, the optimal type of reproduction consists of combining the different parameters of all of these processes, which increases their overall variability. Therefore, this optimal type of reproduction can be shaped under the same official characteristics of the reproduction system but with different conditions of intensiveness of the components of demographic phenomena, i.e., in accordance with their variability differentiation. This proves that essentially the very formulation of the task of achieving an optimal type of reproduction is accurate in terms of demographic phenomena (naturally, with a broader understanding of the nature of demographic processes themselves) and from long-term historical positions.

The internal complexity of the processes of development of the population presumes that the optimality criteria (or their system), including the economic criterion, can be defined only most generally, with a single indicator which must be synthetic, with all consequent merits and shortcomings, as the indicator of the average lifespan in terms of mortality processes. The average per capita size of the national income, which is another criterion of the effectiveness of economic-demographic development, also must be considered as an extremely aggregated value. Therefore, the optimality criterion of economic-demographic reproduction must be measured in greater detail with an entire system of indicators.

The problem of the criterion of optimum demographic development itself, however, has yet another side. The point is that political, ideological, defense, sociological, ecological, natural resource availability and some other criteria may exist in addition to the economic criterion. Their combined utilization may yield rather complex results, for some of them may conflict with others. Thus, for example (all other conditions being equal) in many cases a relatively low population reproduction rate may be desirable from purely economic and ecological standpoints. However, some political and ideological (particularly religious) concepts may encourage a high population birthrate. Therefore, the very existence of a system of optimality criteria determines the need for a multiple-criterion approach and a hierarchy of criteria of an optimal population-development type. Within this system we must single out the leading, the dominating criterion with which all other criteria must agree. Such a criterion may be the political one or, more specifically, the sociopolitical criterion which, in accordance with the requirements of the basic economic law of the system, defines the main objectives of social development and, consequently, all remaining elements of social development. The role and place of the different criteria of the optimal population reproduction type and their hierarchy in terms of the main criterion may change in the course of different historical stages.

Under mature socialist conditions the problems of production effectiveness, resource conservation and environmental protection become increasingly important. For this reason, particular attention must be paid to the population quality factor as the most important element of scientific and technical progress. This greatly influences the pace of population growth as a whole, which includes component demographic processes.

The problem of the hierarchy of criteria has yet another aspect: the ratio between the general (all-union, in the case of the USSR) and the regional criteria of the optimal reproduction type. This is particularly important in terms of economic criteria. On the regional level, population development criteria may be quite disparate. In particular, the task of the accelerated social, including economic, development of one or another region may be set. Nevertheless, all regional criteria must be subordinated to the general interest, including the economic interest, of the country at large.

Differences may also exist concerning the parameters of the optimum type of reproduction, above all in terms of birthrate and migration, on the family and the social levels. Essentially, this means that despite the unified social objectives of the development of society and of its nucleus--the family--some disparities may arise between them at some stages of historical development.

The correct view has been expressed that many measures of influence on demographic processes on a social scale (the macro level) are possible only through the family (the micro level).⁶ While not discussing especially the problem of the need for children and their place in the system of family needs, let us point out that this demographic group of needs, so to speak, was shaped under the influence of the general trends of social development. Whereas at its early development stages, the economic value (which, in itself, is a rather arbitrary term) of children was high in terms of the family and a large number of children (in any case in terms of the number of births) was a mandatory prerequisite for social life, today the situation has changed radically.

Today the economic value of children to the family is more negative than positive. Essentially, children are the object of long-term "capital investments" (in terms of

funds and particularly time) for the parents; their actual purely economic "returns" are quite small, for it is society that assumes support of the old and the time for their "maturing" (less physical than social and professional) is increasing steadily. In one or another way, parents frequently help their children virtually until they have reached a certain practical and material status, not to mention their help in raising their grandchildren. Therefore, the main economic return from children is a matter of the past.

The viewpoint that the birthrate will always remain at a given level as a result of the natural desire for parenthood and the "instinct of procreation of the race" is quite popular. However, this view has not been substantiated.⁷ The need for children represents a specific sociopsychological condition of the individual (and of the family unit)⁸ when the absence of children causes difficulties to the individual as such and, in our view, the family experiences a feeling of discomfort in terms of other families if the majority of them have children.

Without engaging in a detailed discussion of the role of the need for children or the possibility of different elements to meet this need, let us point out that the role of children is increasingly reduced to their prestige value and, therefore, to a component in the mandatory set of family values which could be replaced by other elements. If children are increasingly becoming a nonmaterial but a psychological value, the possibility of compensating this need with other values, with other goods increases. Let us take into consideration also the tremendous amount of information provided on the subject of such goods.

All of this proves that essentially we cannot exclude the possibility of mass conversion to just a one-child but even childless family, although the conversion rate from the first to the second slows down in the course of its transition. The fact that this variant in the development of the birthrate trend cannot be entirely excluded is indirectly confirmed by the increased protogenetic intervals (between marriage and first birth) and their substantial differentiation depending on the mother's educational standard. Let us also take into consideration the great stability in time of these newly developed standards of demographic behavior and, therefore, the length of the possible steps which must be taken to change them.

However, society is interested in maintaining a certain birthrate level which, as indicated by a number of studies, must ensure as a minimum the simple reproduction of the population in order to block manifestations of reduced reproduction.⁹ Therefore, society appears to be more interested than the individual family in maintaining a certain pace of population growth and preventing the creation of a widespread two-child family system, not to mention families with one child or no children at all.

However, such contradictions between the interests of society and the family are purely external, for the long-term objectives of the socialist society are the accelerated development of economy and culture and the growth of the material well-being of the population, i.e., in the final account they are aimed at the further development of the family and, therefore, the creation of conditions (economic, legal and psychological) for the development of a new (or implementation of the existing) type of reproduction behavior. The steps taken in the area of demographic policy will contribute to this objective.

Let us also discuss the problem of the development of an optimal type of reproduction from the viewpoint of the objectives of demographic policy. We believe that USSR demographic policy must have as its specific target the creation of a country-wide type of population reproduction, i.e., the country must develop in the future an intensively uniform type of population reproduction, above all a unified type of birthrate (naturally, in terms of statistics).

The situation of the mortality rate trend is somewhat different. In this case, by virtue of a number of sociohygienic reasons and differences in regional natural conditions and economic structures, some secondary regional variations in the lifespan are possible and even inevitable. However, the scale of such disparities can and will be gradually diminished. Naturally, it is a question of major demographic groups, for some professions involve higher risks involving human health and even life.

Gradually, ethnic disparities in migration intensiveness will be evened out, although this is a rather lengthy process which will largely be based on the fast growth of the migration intensiveness of nationalities whose territorial mobility in the past (and the present) has been small. As to the development of demographic structures, by virtue of inevitable economic differences among individual parts of the USSR, differentiations among such structures will remain. This may lead to the existence of minor disparities in the quality of the population in the different areas over a certain period of time.

As a whole, the trend toward the equalization of the intensiveness of population migration processes in the various regions is objectively determined by the common general objectives in the development of our country, the gradual equalization of still extant (although minor) disparities in the population's education standard, and the rapprochement among socialist nations. The general development trends in population dynamics, mainly the birthrate, lead to the future development of an essentially uniform type of population reproduction for the country at large (once again from the position of the intensiveness of such phenomena), and the similarity among the final parameters of population generation dynamics. All of this proves that the optimal type of reproduction must be essentially uniform for the entire country. Naturally, this does not exclude (and, to a certain extent, even presumes) fluctuations in the annual number of demographic events over a long period of time (3-4 generations), particularly in terms of marriages and births, triggered by the influence of structural factors.

The definition of parameters is one of the major problems in the study of the demographic optimum as an objective of demographic policy. Without discussing in detail the selection of characteristics in defining the parameters of one or another preferable type of reproduction, the main feature of this problem is the definition of optimal characteristics.

Studies and computations based on different models indicate that theoretically the parameters of the optimum type of population reproduction are contained within rather narrow boundaries. The reason is that the concept of an optimum type of reproduction is applicable when the transitional stages in population development have been virtually completed and, above all, when the conversion from a high to a low birthrate, from families with many to families with few children has come to an end. In other words, this is possible only when an essentially stable birthrate has developed from the time viewpoint.

We know that fluctuations in the annual numbers of demographic events considerably complicate the solution of a number of socioeconomic and demographic problems, including that of the stabilization of demographic processes. That is why optimizing the age-sex population structure is part of the problem of developing an optimal type of reproduction as a whole. Essentially, however, this problem must be resolved on a number of levels.

Let us begin with the need to make a distinction within the optimality problem not only in terms of the population age structure but its sex structure as well. In the case of big population masses and big administrative-territorial units with large populations, the most desirable is the proportional breakdown in the number of men and women (taking into consideration differences in the mortality rate). Such a combination favors not only the reproduction of the population but economic development as well. However, such proportions are rarely found in practice, for phenomena which are "external" in terms of purely demographic ones (wars, large migrations, disproportional development of economic sectors) have a substantial effect on the population's sex structure.

The problem of optimizing the population's sex structure in the various parts of the USSR entails great difficulties, for in this case, immediate production interests, oriented mainly toward the use of male or female labor, become the optimality criterion. Whereas from a purely economic viewpoint, such a structure may seem to present some advantages, on a social level sexual disproportion entails a number of negative consequences.

Another task is that of optimizing the population's age structure. Once again, it must be resolved separately for the country at large and for its individual areas. In terms of the entire country, the problem of optimality criteria and, quite specifically, the time on the basis of which we define the various optimality criteria of this structure is quite important. The assumption is that after the population reproduction system has been stabilized throughout the country, the optimal age structure of a stable population would be the one which is consistent with the existing birthrate and mortality levels. How to determine the level of optimality of the actual population age structure? If we assume that the corresponding type of stable age structure is optimal, in terms of large demographic groups the level of disparity between the real and the stable population age structure which corresponds to it in terms of parameters may be accepted as such a characteristic.¹⁰

The problem of optimizing demographic processes is complex from the standpoint of the time of its resolution as well. Here again no simple approach is possible. For example, in the case of birthrate processes, it is one thing when it is a question of developing conditions for the implementation of already existing demographic ideals, i.e., of the utilization of the possibilities of the already established "demographic climate" which, however, is not being realized for one reason or another. In such a case, both the optimizing time and the necessary economic resources would be considerably less. The situation becomes more complex in the case of the development of a new type of behavior, distinct from the actually existing one, corresponding to the optimal population reproduction type. In that case, more time and funds would be required.

Even more time is needed for optimizing the age structure on the national scale. In this case we are speaking of several demographic generations, for (in the absence of extensive

external migration) with a lengthy and stable reproduction system, time alone can even up age structure extremes. All this proves the need for the application of demographic policy measures based on the precise understanding of its tasks.

As a whole, the basic features of the optimal reproduction time (essentially the future reproduction time), based on general trends of development of the social society and on demographic phenomena as a component of social development trends and the study of the consequences of various types of population reproduction, may include the following:

Low consciously limited birthrate which ensures a slightly expanded population reproduction within the range of the typical (no more than three children) family;

Steadily expanding, although at a different pace, average lifespan at birth and by age group;

Increased intensiveness of intracountry migration;

Gradual elimination of historically developed disproportions in the age and sex structure on a national scale and bringing it closer to the stable population structure; and

Steady improvement of population quality.

Naturally, today such features are manifested only in general population development trends.

Let us note in particular that the development of population quality characteristics consistent with the long-term objectives of the future society is the most important task of demographic policy. The definition of the parameters of this phenomenon, even if on a most general basis, requires extensive special studies. Furthermore, another very important stipulation is entirely obvious: the need and possibility of a steady improvement in population quality, for the termination or even slowdown in the pace of this process, particularly under the conditions of a stable rate of natural population growth, is fraught with extremely serious consequences.

One of the important problems in defining the objectives of demographic policy is that of defining the parameters (or their variation limits) of the optimal population reproduction type. The variety and occasional contradictoriness of optimality criteria of demographic processes and the complexity of the factors which define changes in their intensiveness determine the need for the use of a variety of models with their inevitably simplified systems of actual relations and dependencies.¹¹

As was already pointed out, achievement of stable optimum population reproduction parameters, if known, is possible only if the population's age structure approaches stability. However, this leads to a situation of great importance in the formulation of models for defining parameters of the optimal population reproduction type. This means that such elaborations could be based not on a real but on a stable population and that the closer the real population comes to the stable one (an objectively inevitable process), the more accurate the model becomes.

We know that the stable population theory is the basis for the most familiar model for determining the optimal value of the net coefficient, developed by Hungarian demographers

R. Andork and K. (Mil'ten'i) on the basis of the works of J. Bourgeois-Pich. This model was used for computing the optimal values of net coefficients for the USSR, Hungary, Poland, the GDR and the individual union republics in the USSR. The computations indicate that in the case of countries and areas in which the transition to a low birthrate was completed, the optimal value of the net coefficient is essentially 1.1-1.2.¹²

The concept of the optimal type of reproduction as an objective of demographic policy has triggered objections, occasionally very sharp, on the part of individual authors.¹³ These objections apply mainly to the possibility of formulating such a scientific problem, bearing in mind that it has been relatively unstudied. Such objections are hardly legitimate from the position of Marxist philosophy and the logic of scientific analysis. At the same time, however, we must agree that the elaboration of problems of optimizing demographic processes is a very complex task. It can be resolved as an element of optimizing the development of the entire social system. However, the difficulty of the problem should not be an argument against its study but merely in favor of the development of such studies, naturally assuming that this task is of theoretical and practical value.

It is sometimes assumed that in the final account all activities in the socialist society are focused on the creation of objective and subjective conditions for the establishment of a "communist type of population self-reproduction," for which reason a "general and effective demographic control over measures implemented in all areas and spheres of the socialist society" must be established rather than pursuing a "superactive demographic policy."¹⁴

In our view, this approach is wrong. There is no social program without a specific objective. Any other objectives on this level are only secondary. Essentially, they could be taken into consideration only if a compromise has been reached between the main and the auxiliary targets. Naturally, the main objective takes priority in any social program, for this is the only way in which it could be singled out from the system of a variety of socioeconomic measures. In the opposite case, such measures are dissolved in the system of other socioeconomic actions, lose their clearly defined and specific direction, for which reason they are unable to fulfill their main assignment.

The absence of a clear objective of demographic policy would mean a general rejection of the need for direct social steps for controlling demographic phenomena. In considering the hierarchical nature of social objectives, we must clearly define the target of each of its subsystems. This is the only possible way leading to success. Naturally, the entire system of social programs is hierarchical and part of a single main task--the building of a communist society. In V. Steshenko's words, the creation of a "communist type of population self-reproduction" is an important but not at all basic objective of our society and must not be given an excessively broad meaning and substitute other social tasks for it.

All of this does not mean that demographers should not participate in the formulation of different social programs. Each social program must take "demographic interests" into consideration. However, in our view this does not eliminate in the least the need for an independent demographic policy consisting of especially targeted and formulated social measures.

In itself, the idea of the development of a communist type of reproduction is entirely legitimate. It is equally true (as we have repeatedly stressed) that a demographic policy is needed regardless of the existing situation. Even in the case of its most favorable variant (the way of assessing the situation is a different matter) control of demographic processes is needed as an element in control actions applied to the entire social system. At the same time, as the socialist society develops, the need for measures to control demographic processes will become greater. Furthermore, the development itself will expand the objective possibility of such actions.

However, the parameters of a favorable, of an ideal type of reproduction based on long-term social interests or, in other words, the type of future population reproduction, must be defined not only qualitatively but quantitatively, from the positions of selected criteria, i.e., once again it should be a question of a demographic optimum. In scientific works the communist type of population reproduction must be given a specific quantitative dimension, which gives this type definite advantages compared with the other possible types of population reproduction, naturally from the viewpoint of the adopted criterion or criteria system.

Occasionally, demographic policy is understood as the shaping of a "conscious demographic behavior of its members" desirable to society.¹⁵ However, this understanding of the objectives of demographic policy seems to us rather vague. The concept of "conscious demographic behavior" is quite loose, for such awareness may apply to an unlimited birthrate, small families or medium-sized families. Under contemporary conditions, however, a mass ideal of large families is hardly possible (the need for it is a different matter) and an orientation toward a small family is perhaps the most typical.

In this case as well, however, the already-mentioned definition of demographic policy objectives is quite loose. According to recent studies, the population has qualitatively specific ideals of demographic behavior, always expressed in terms of a specific number of children.¹⁶ Desirable birthrate standards cannot be discussed without defining the quantitatively desired type of reproduction behavior. The system of steps aimed at encouraging the birthrate depends on the desired type of reproduction behavior. The choice of a system of demographic policy measures largely determines the necessary amount of funds that could be spent for such services as well as the set of steps to be taken, although frequently the opposite occurs in reality: the measures of demographic policy are selected on the basis of available funds. Therefore, we cannot speak of the target of a demographic policy without defining qualitatively the parameters of the optimal reproduction type.

The current "demographic behavior" mechanism is actually an element of societal development. It was created in the course of the development of our society and it is hardly possible to speak of the shaping of a "new mechanism." The fact that we must improve the work of the existing mechanism and make fuller use of its possibilities is a different matter. Here again, the comprehensive study of the problem of optimum population as a target of demographic policy is of major theoretical and practical importance.

FOOTNOTES

1. On the subject of criteria of optimal population reproduction, see A. Ya. Kvasha, "Problemy Ekonomiko-Demograficheskogo Razvitiya SSSR" [Problems of USSR Economic-Demographic Development]. Moscow, 1974.

2. The problem of the choice of a general criterion of national economic development has been discussed in many publications. It was also the topic of a special seminar (see *EKONOMIKA I MATEMATICHESKIYE METODY*, No 6, 1979).
3. This must be underscored not only because of the variety of relations and the inseparable nature of population dynamics and demographic structures but also because some authors who analyzed this concept of demographic optimum assumed that it is a question merely of a single natural dynamics. This is not so. Our concept covers the establishment of an optimal type of population reproduction as a whole. Understandably, work in this area, particularly involving the modeling of such processes, is only beginning.
4. One of the few specialized Soviet works in this area is the monograph by Ye. Samoylova, "Naseleniye i Obrazovaniye" [Population and Education] (Moscow, 1978).
5. See, for example, B. Ts. Ulanis. "Problemy Dinamiki Naseleniya SSSR" [Problems of USSR Population Dynamics], Moscow, 1974; "Upravleniye Razvitiyem Narodonaseleniya SSSR" [Controlling the Development of USSR Population], Moscow, 1977, and others.
6. See A. G. Volkov, "O Neobkhodimosti Vozdeystviya na Rozhdayemost'" [On the Need To Influence the Birthrate]. Rozhdayemost, Moscow, 1976.
7. In our view, a convincing analysis of the groundlessness of this concept is found in the work by V. Borisov, "Perspektivy Rozhdayemosti" [Birthrate Prospects] (Moscow, 1976).
8. See A. I. Antonov. "Sociologiya Rozhdayemosti" [Sociology of the Birthrate]. Moscow, 1980. Let us point out that the individual spouses may have different desires concerning children and the desired number of children of different generations of a complex family. Therefore, the very concept of the "Opinion of the Family" is quite arbitrary.
9. By reduced reproduction we mean a system which characterizes not only a net coefficient less than one, but an entire system of different characteristics as well.
10. To this purpose we may use the indicators suggested by S. Pirozhkov of instability of the adult population structure. Essentially, these values reveal the summarized extent of difference between the real and the stable population, affected by the influence of a variety of reasons (see S. I. Pirozhkov, "Demograficheskiye Protsessy i Vozrastnaya Struktura Naseleniya" [Demographic Processes and the Population's Age Structure], Moscow, 1975).
11. A survey of approaches to defining the parameters of a demographic optimum may be found in the following works: A. Ya. Kvasha, "Demograficheskiy Optimum" [Demographic Optimum], Moscow, 1974; Ya. I. Rubin, "Optimum Naseleniya: Chto za Etim Ponyatiye?" [The Meaning of the Concept of Population Optimum], Minsk, 1979.
12. Such combined computations may be found in the article by A. Kvasha, "Demographic Optimum." *OBSHCHESTVENNYE NAUKI*, No 4, 1978.

13. See V. P. Piskunov, "Outline of a General System of a Demological Idea of Population Self-Reproduction." DEMOGRAFICHESKIYE TETRADI, No 9, Kiev, 1974; V. S. Steshenko, "Topical Problems of Development of Soviet Demography in the Light of the Decisions of the 25th CPSU Congress. 'Socioeconomic Characteristics of Population Reproduction Under Developed Socialist Conditions. (Theses, Reports and Communications Presented at the Second Republic Demographic Conference, Odessa, 1976, section 1)'" Kiev, 1976.

14. "Socioeconomic Characteristics of Population Reproduction Under Developed Socialist Conditions....," p. 11.

15. Ibid.

16. See, for example, V. A. Belova and L. Ye. Darskiy, "Statistika Mneniy v Izuchenii Rozhdayemosti" [Statistics on Views on the Study of the Birthrate]. Moscow, 1973.

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5003

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NATIONAL

APPEAL TO PUBLISHERS TO COORDINATE BOOK SUPPLY, DEMAND

Moscow SOVETSKAYA KUL'TURA in Russian 1 Dec 81 p 3

[Article by I. Zhukov, inspector of the USSR Committee of People's Control: "How To Avoid Losses?"]

[Text] The occurrence of a deficit in book production has become customary in our day. The spiritual, scientific, and professional requirements of people are growing, and it is becoming increasingly difficult to satisfy them. Moreover, it must be admitted that it has become fashionable to acquire books. In short, many objective and subjective reasons are causing this deficit.

Frequently one hears of old stocks of books supposedly existing in the stores. Is this so? According to the accounting of printed production conducted annually by title, the remnants of books in the trade network after expiration of three years from the date of their publication on the average do not exceed 1.4 percent. That is not very much. And it is impossible to imagine a situation in which the book stores would remain empty or sell all literature "from wheels." There must be an assortment of books that specialists could buy for the duration of a certain period.

Of concern are the books which remained beyond the indicated inventories and do not find a market, and which are then written off as waste paper. During the years of the past five-year-plan alone, publications valued at 47 million rubles were written off in the stores of the state book trade and the USSR Central Union of Consumers' Societies. This means that tens of thousands of tons of paper were expended uselessly.

A check conducted not long ago by the USSR Committee of People's Control of a number of publishing houses showed that the percentage of write-offs is very high for books dealing with agricultural topics, for example. In Kiyevskaya Oblast there are two book stores of the USSR Central Union of Consumers' Societies located not far from one another--the Makarovskiy and the Pereyaslavkhmel'nitskiy Stores. One of them is in good repute, in the other there are many shortcomings. But, regardless of the different work indicators, there is also a similarity: in both stores every fourth book dealing with questions of agriculture in the end is written off as not finding a buyer.

Such books also are not in demand in libraries. An analysis conducted recently in the libraries of the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Belorussia and Kazakhstan showed an extremely low demand for agricultural literature. For example, in the Shaturskiy, Ramenskiy, Solnechnogorskiy and a number of other rayon libraries of Moscow Oblast, approximately 80 percent of the books devoted to this subject area were not issued once. More than 70 percent of the books of the Kazakh agricultural publishing house "Kaynar" are not requested by the workers of the villages of Alma-Atinskaya Oblast. According to data of the Central Scientific Agricultural Library of the All-Union Academy of Agricultural Sciences im. V. I. Lenin, more than half of its holdings was not requested more than once, regardless of the fact that it serves all libraries of the country.

A significant part of the holdings of the mass libraries is written off as waste paper, never having been in the hands of the readers. During the years 1976-1980, the libraries of the system of the USSR Ministry of Culture, which are made up for the most part of the book collecting departments of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade, received 711 million copies of books. During these years 496 million copies were written off by them. . .

Of course, the reasons for the low demand for individual publications are frequently concealed in the poor organization of the work of libraries. However, a book that is needed, the reader will always find. Therefore, the responsibility for books that are not read by anyone rests still primarily on the publishing houses.

Much depends on a precisely formulated plan, which must take into account the interests of the field and the demands of the broad reader. Fruitful in this regard is the experiment in long-range planning which is being conducted at the initiative of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade jointly with interested ministries and departments. It is important to establish such interrelations that the participation of the latter in the composition of the publishing plans--long-range, annotated topical, more precisely defined--would be obligatory.

No matter how paradoxical, publishing houses by far not always take into account the opinions of the leading organizations concerning the inexpediency of publishing one or another specialized book. For example, the BSSR Ministry of Agriculture twice called the attention of the management of the publishing house "Uradzhay" to certain books included in the plan of subjects, as not promising. However, they appeared nevertheless, and a part of the edition of precisely these books is collecting dust on the shelves of the stores. The very opposite also happens: Ministries and departments insistently recommend the publication of certain books, and then issue instructions to their subordinated organizations to purchase them in order to "rescue" the publisher.

In determining the size of the edition of a book it is necessary, above all, to take into account the specificity of the publication. Books which command a limited demand it is more expedient to publish in accordance with guaranteed orders or on the basis of subscription. In so doing, it is necessary that the information about such a form of service reach those who need specialized literature. And this is the task of booksellers and many other organizations.

The publication of duplicate publications remains a serious problem. Regardless of the fact that in order to avoid duplication the Main Administration for the Coordination and Summary Subject Planning of the USSR State Committee for Publishing Houses, Printing Plants and the Book Trade excludes thousands of titles from the plans of publishing houses every year, it has nevertheless not been possible to overcome this phenomenon fully.

Unfortunately, coordination at the stage of authors' applications does not yield appreciable results. On the one hand, it is difficult to make judgments about a future manuscript on the basis of an application. On the other hand, having received a rejection on account of duplication, the author finds it possible to change the external form of the application in such a way that it will no longer have the appearance of a duplicate. Obviously, in order to avoid all of this, greater attention must be devoted to the composition of a coordinated inter-publishing house subject plan, which would be compiled not only as a preliminary, but also as a working document, comprehensively examined and confirmed by interested organizations.

Obviously, the basic reason lies in the fact that the publishing houses try to fill subject "gaps" and in order to avoid unproductive losses "to extract" these or those manuscripts.

There is also another, especially "internal" aspect of the problems we are examining --the interest of the publishing houses, primarily the small ones, in avoiding a reduction in the number of titles of books and pamphlets published by them, as well as in the volumes of publisher's signatures. This is a complicated and delicate question since it is directly connected with the level of employment of the editorial staff, its qualifications, and in the end with the regular staff number. Indeed, if primarily books are to be published which enjoy increased demand and the small-edition works are to be transferred to "small printing", not only individual editors may turn out to be missing from the business, but also editorial boards, since the work load will not correspond to existing norms. Evidently, the necessity exists to consider a regulation of the norms governing the work load of editors which is more detailed still than the presently existing one.

Frequently small publishing houses, in the name of preserving the quantity of titles of printed production and the volume of publisher's signatures, resort to the publication of non-state works of little current interest, and in order to achieve profitability print so-called commercial books. The publishing house "Kaynar", which has already been mentioned here, for example, expends over half of its stock of paper and in some years up to 70 percent for the publication of travel guides, books on cooking, domestic science, etc., which produce a deliberately larger income than literature on agriculture.

And here the enlargement of the editorial board, as experience shows, facilitates the possibility of "maneuverability" in the placement of the forces of the editorial staff, in the determination of the sizes of editions and the subjects of the plan. However, this calls forth the question of the fate of the small publishing houses. The first experience of enlarging specialized publishing houses is already available (for example, the publishers "Finansy" and "Statistika" are merged), and it needs in-depth and comprehensive study.

Only some questions are raised here with regard to the satisfaction of the demand for specialized literature, the publication of books of little current interest, duplication, and increasing the size of editions. In order to solve these questions, the efforts not only of the publishers are needed, but also of the public and the broadest range of specialists directly involved in the creation of books.

8970

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REGIONAL

AZERBAIJAN SSR SUPREME SOVIET PRESIDIUM REVIEWS PROCUREMENT PROBLEMS

Baku BAKINSKIY RABOCHIY in Russian 29 Nov 81 p 2

[Article: "In the Presidium of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet"]

[Text] The Presidium of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet held a meeting on 26 November of this year under the chairmanship of Comrade K. A. Khalilov.

An examination was made of the efforts by the Azerbaijan SSR Ministry of Procurement to increase production and raise the quality of combined feeds in light of the decisions of the 30th Azerbaijani Communist Party Congress.

Information on this question, which had been discussed earlier by the agricultural commission of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet, was provided by the commission chairman, Deputy Z. G. Abdullayev. He noted that as a result of steps taken in recent years, combined feed industry has become an important contributor to growth of animal husbandry's feed base.

At the same time, considering intensification of the development of animal husbandry in the republic and the growing demand for combined feeds at the farms, the Ministry of Procurement must still do a lot to eliminate the existing shortcomings in production in the necessary assortment and quality. Working toward their planned targets, in a number of cases the sector's enterprises fail to complete the plan in terms of the product list. The proportion of granulated combined feeds within the total production volume is 8.5 percent, which is significantly below the union-wide indicators. There are significant shortcomings in work organization at the Kilyazinsk Combined Feed Plant, the Kirovabad Combine and the Sal'yany Plant. It was noted that in a number of cases the Ministry of Procurement made serious mistakes when planning the production technology, as a result of which part of the equipment possessed by the sector's most recently opened enterprises is already obsolete. Agricultural wastes, particularly cotton stems, grape pomace, green vines and grape vine cuttings, mulberry silkworm cocoons, brewing waste and so on, are not being used as ingredients in combined feed production. Use of these wastes could significantly increase the quantity of combined feeds and raise their nutrient value. A standardization service is still absent from the machinery of the Ministry of Procurement. All of this demonstrates that enterprises of combined feed industry are still dragging their heels in their efforts to satisfy modern requirements, as determined by the party slogan "Animal husbandry is the shock front in the countryside."

Serious attention was devoted at the 30th Azerbaijani Communist Party Congress to development of combined feed industry in the republic. Acting in response, the Presidium of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet published a decree containing the appropriate instructions to the Ministry of Procurement, the Azerbaijan SSR Gosplan, and executive committees of a number of city and rayon soviets of people's deputies having combined feed industry on their territory.

In May 1979 the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted the decree "On the Tasks of the Soviets of People's Deputies Implied by the CPSU Central Committee Decree 'On Further Improvement of Ideological Work and Political Indoctrination'." At the meeting of the Presidium of the republic's Supreme Soviet, information was provided by Apsheronskiy Rayispolkom Acting Chairman I. E. Mamedov and Khanlarskiy Rayispolkom Chairman R. S. Dashyan on the progress being made by these soviets in improving work in culture, education and sports. It was reported that the executive committees of the rayon soviets and their permanent commissions have developed and implemented concrete measures to raise the ideological level and effectiveness of mass political work carried out by cultural and educational institutions in the countryside, to publicize the Soviet way of life and the moral norms of socialist society and to improve the activity of physical culture collectives. Problems associated with organization of the work of clubs and libraries and of public film services by village and town soviets, with activation of amateur art in the labor collectives, with development of mass physical culture and sports at enterprises and farms, with preserving historical and cultural monuments and so on were examined at sessions of the rayon soviets and at executive committee meetings.

It was noted at the same time in speeches given at the Presidium's meeting that the activities of cultural institutions and centers and of physical culture and sports organizations and collectives are still not being analyzed deeply enough in the indicated rayons. Discussion of these questions in soviet sessions and at executive committee and permanent commission meetings often boils down to simple reports on the work done, ones which do not conscientiously evaluate and criticize the shortcomings and omissions. Permanent commissions for culture and national education and for youth affairs are doing little to support cultural and educational institutions and mass sports work, and their recommendations are not getting down to the working level. In Apsheronskiy Rayon, the cultural centers rarely conduct reviews and competitions among town and village amateur art collectives, and the public is not encouraged strongly enough to participate in artistic creativity. Many cultural and educational institutions of Khanlarskiy Rayon fail to satisfy modern requirements. The clubs of a number of villages are in unsatisfactory condition.

Unable to find adequate training facilities where they live, many sportsmen of Apsheronskiy Rayon are forced to use the services of sports organizations in Baku and Sumgait. Nor are there sports facilities in many farms of Khanlarskiy Rayon. Many general schools in these rayons do not have their own gymnasiums. Special mention should be made of the poor organization of mass sports work among young girls and women. Concrete instructions aimed at satisfaction of the requirements contained in the decree of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet named above were written into a decree addressed to the republic's soviets of people's deputies and their executive committees.

The soviets of people's deputies of the Azerbaijan SSR are doing a significant amount of organizational work to satisfy the requirements of legislation concerned with encouraging mothers to produce large families and educate their children. As a result of the measures that were developed, the level of this work has increased noticeably in the republic in recent years. The soviets of people's deputies and their permanent commissions are also devoting a great deal of attention to improving the working and living conditions of mothers, to educating children, to developing the network of preschool institutions and schools, to improving medical services to women and children and to protecting motherhood and childhood.

In addition to this, highly significant shortcomings and omissions have been revealed in the work of the republic's soviets of people's deputies aimed at providing moral encouragement for large families and education of children. In particular there have been violations in the established order of submitting candidates for awards, in drawing up the documents and in presenting such awards to the mothers of large families. In a number of places things are not going well with medical services to large families and with other social and personal issues. The executive committees of rayon and city soviets are not providing enough practical assistance to the workers of subordinate soviets; nor are they providing positive examples of organizing all aspects of encouraging mothers with many children.

The Presidium of the Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet adopted the decree "On Measures to Eliminate Shortcomings in Rewarding the Mothers of Large Families and Presenting Rewards to Them," in which the republic's soviets of people's deputies and their executive committees were instructed to organize an inspection of the efforts to submit the names of mothers with many children for rewards and to present rewards to them, to reveal the causes of existing shortcomings and to take the necessary steps against violations of the law and manifestations of formalism and red tape. The corresponding instructions were also transmitted to the Azerbaijani ministries of social welfare and public health.

The Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet's Commission for the Problems of the Labor and Life of Women and Protection of Motherhood and Childhood provided information at the meeting on the work being done by the Kirovabad Confectionery Factory to improve the working and living conditions of women. Deputy T. A. Gumbatov, the chairman of this commission, gave a speech. Measures aimed at ensuring normal working conditions for women at work and improving their life at home are being implemented at the factory in accordance with existing law, which is promoting active participation of female workers in the socialist competition and in fulfillment of planned targets and adopted pledges. An on-site inspection, however, revealed that the factory did not have an integrated plan for the enterprise's social and economic development. Collective contracts signed in 1980 and 1981 do not contain special measures aimed at improving the work and life of women, who make up more than 62 percent of the total number of workers. Because of slow implementation of measures to automate production, a large number of workers are still doing manual labor; many shops lack storage and auxiliary rooms, causing production inconveniences. There is a shortage of rooms to be used by women for breaks and for personal hygiene. There are numerous violations of the Labor Code at the factory: Many women have been called in to work on their days off. The factory dining hall is not functioning satisfactorily: The necessary conditions permitting implementation of improvements

and preventive measures have not been created yet. In accordance with decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress and the 30th Congress of the Azerbaijani Communist Party, the decree on this question requires that the republic's Ministry of Food Industry develop and implement additional measures to improve collective contracts and to make the living and working conditions of women better. It was recommended to the republic's soviets of people's deputies and their executive committees that they intensify their surveillance over compliance with the law, as related to improving the social and personal conditions of women employed in social production.

Other questions were also examined at this meeting of the Presidium, and the appropriate decrees were adopted.

Participants of the Presidium's meeting included Azerbaijani Supreme Soviet Presidium members D. M. Muslimzade and G. K. Aliyev, Azerbaijani Minister of Procurement I. Sh. Shamiyev, Minister of Industrial Construction T. Sh. Safaraliyev, Azerbaijan SSR Procurator A. M. Zamanov and others.

11004

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REGIONAL

KLAUSON STRESSES AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN NEXT FIVE-YEAR PLAN

Tallinn SOVETSKAYA ESTONIYA in Russian 8 Dec 81 pp 2-3

[Text] Tomorrow a United Political Day will be held in our republic with the theme "The Realization of the Decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress in Practical Affairs is the Guarantee of the Successful Completion of the Plans of the 11th Five-Year-Plan." On the eve of this measure, A. Prisyazhnyy, correspondent of the Estonian News Agency, met with the chairman of the ESSR Council of Ministers, V. Klauson, and asked him to reply to a number of questions.

Party, soviet, trade union, Komsomol and economic workers, lecturers and propagandists during the Political Day will appear before the work collectives and the population of the republic with the story of the decisions of the November (1981) Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee and the Sixth Session of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th convocation. Val'ter Ivanovich, as an individual who took directly part in their work, to what would you like to direct special attention?

In his speech at the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, advanced a number of fundamental propositions aimed at the acceleration of the development of the economy of the country. I would like to emphasize that the State Plan of Economic and Social Development of the country in the 11th Five-Year-Plan and the State Plan and Budget for 1982 are plans of peaceful development, they envisage concrete ways of fulfilling successfully the main task set at the 26th CPSU Congress: The guarantee of the further growth of the prosperity of the Soviet people on the basis of the steady and progressive development of the national economy, the acceleration of scientific-technical progress and the conversion of the economy to an intensive path of development, the more rational utilization of the productive potential of the country, every conceivable economy in all types of resources, and the improvement of the quality of work.

During the past week the 4th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Estonian Communist Party and the 4th Session of the ESSR Supreme Soviet of the 10th Convocation examined the plan for the social and economic development during the 11th Five-Year-Plan and the State Plan and Budget for 1982 for our republic. Envisaged are the further dynamic development of the economy of our republic--an integral part of the

single national economic complex of the country, the increase of the prosperity of the people, and the solution of the most important social tasks.

The first year of the 11th Five-Year-Plan is ending rather well. The workers of industry ahead of schedule, on 27 November, fulfilled the plan for 11 months in regard to the total volume of the realization of production and the production of most types of products. Production valued at almost 65 million rubles was realized above the plan. By comparison with the corresponding period of the past year, there was an increase in labor productivity, and there was a reduction in production cost. The plans for catching fish, for the production of cotton fabric, cultural products and products for everyday living, and many other types of production are being successfully fulfilled.

The most important item of business in the 11th Five-Year-Plan is to make a worthy contribution to the solution of the food program on the basis of a further increase in agriculture. It was no accident that at the November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee L. I. Brezhnev began his analysis of the most urgent problems of economic construction and ways of solving them with precisely this question. In our republic it is planned to bring the average annual production of grain per inhabitant up to approximately one ton, meat--to more than 140 kilograms, milk--to 820 kilograms, and eggs--to approximately 420 units. As you see, high limits are projected, they require the efforts of all forces. All the more so because the beginning of the five-year-plan turned out extremely unfavorable for the workers in agriculture because of the caprices of the weather. We obtained less grain and fewer potatoes as a whole than in former years. Nevertheless, the necessary stocks of potatoes and vegetables for the supply of the population were created and the target in regard to grain sales to the state was fulfilled.

The coming winter period will be difficult for the livestock producers because of the lack of feed on many farms. Therefore the question of the well-thought-out and economical use of every kilogram of all types of feed becomes especially urgent. At the Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia it was underscored that how we will feed the population in the future will depend on how things go in the livestock industry. This is why for the republic party organization and for the soviet organs of the republic there is at present no more important task than the solution of the problems of agriculture. To this we must subordinate many other things, and many questions must be solved through the prism of the needs and tasks of the village.

Great hopes in this regard are being placed on the agricultural-industrial associations organized this year in every rayon. This is a serious step forward in the perfection of the administration of agricultural production. They are called upon to unite the efforts of the farms and the enterprises processing agricultural products and servicing agriculture. The present difficult year will become a serious test for them.

I very much like the words of L. I. Brezhnev to the effect that, until we learn how to be in command of the weather, the work in agriculture must be more skillfully adapted to climatic conditions and oriented not on the basis of favorable weather, but on the basis of its extreme manifestations.

The progressive farms of the republic are skillfully realizing the advice of L. I. Brezhnev and are obtaining good results even in extremely difficult years with regard to weather conditions. Thus, the "Vambola" Kolkhoz of Vil'yanskiy Rayon during the current year harvested an average of almost 32 quintals of grain and 218 quintals of potatoes per hectare, while the average harvest for the rayon was 24.5 and 109.3 quintals respectively. A good potato harvest was raised by the "Tartu" Sovkhoz and the Sovkhoz im. V. I. Lenin of Tartuskiy Rayon.

There are such farms in other rayons as well, but there are still many kolkhozes and sovkhozes, where the operational reconstruction of activity, taking into account difficult weather conditions, is poorly realized. This leads to great shortages in agricultural production.

We live in the zone of so-called risky agriculture, and for this reason we must take local conditions more precisely and more strictly into account, utilize the necessary techniques and technology, and train cadres.

The patronage assistance of the town to the village must become qualitatively different. Livestock-raising in Estonia is expediently transferred to an industrial basis. And what is really needed is not simply assistance, but cooperation, calculated for the long term, not only by people, but also by transportation, the construction of housing, and the improvement of everyday life.

The advancing growth of the production of consumer items and the, by comparison with the past, higher proportion of the national income going for the satisfaction of the demands of the Soviet people convincingly testify to the clearly social orientation of the five-year-plan. . .

I shall cite the following example. In September-October of the current year, a review-competition was held at the Exhibition of Achievements of the National Economy of the ESSR involving consumer products produced by enterprises of the republic. Approximately 1,200 specimens were presented. Now practically all enterprises of the republic produce articles for the people. For the eleven months of the current year alone, more than 30 million rubles worth of them were sold above the plan. The quality of mass consumption articles was improved. The production targets of light and local industry enterprises are being systematically fulfilled and overfulfilled.

We have great possibilities. But there are also great unutilized reserves. Thus, in the presence of the general favorable indicators, the enterprises of the industries that were mentioned above failed to produce 8 million rubles worth of products that had been contracted for. Some enterprises of union subordination are making more than a modest contribution. They account for only six percent of the total volume of production of mass consumption items, and their assortment is renewed slowly. By the way, this found reflection at the review-competition. Of the total mass of models, only 94 were presented by union enterprises. For the time being, their management takes an intolerably passive attitude toward questions of the expansion and renewal of assortment. . .

The most important peculiarity of the present stage of creation, as is well known, lies in the fact that the role of intensive factors of national production is sharply increasing and an outstripping growth is projected for final results by comparison with the growth of expenditures. In what way can this goal be attained?

We have many possibilities here. I will note particularly the importance of the rational use of all resources: Material, labor, financial and production capacities. The level of production efficiency depends in many respects on how much electricity, heat, fuel, and raw material will be expended. Throughout the country materials, fuel, and power valued at one and a half billion rubles are expended every day. Just consider the scale of this figure! And if in 1975 the weight of one percent of the economy amounted to 4.9 billion rubles, in 1980 it amounted to approximately 7 billion.

In our republic there are good examples of a businesslike approach to the solution of this problem. At the Fourth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Estonia the experience of the Tallinn Machine Building Plant imeni I. Lauristin was discussed. During the past five-year-plan the production volume increased by 22 percent here, while the demand for rolled stock of ferrous metals did not increase. In terms of metal intensiveness, the machinery for air cooling of this plant are as good as foreign counterparts. The relative weight of electric power and fuel energy used in the extraction of shale, the production of sulphuric acid, superphosphate, wood particle boards, veneers, and many other types of products is being successfully reduced.

And nevertheless, unfortunately, we have quite a few examples of the opposite order. The results of the intensification of production could be higher if the materials, labor force and finances would be used with care and the capacities would be fully utilized by every collective. Many machines and instruments produced by our industry are still excessively material and energy-intensive. In some industries, the relative expenditure of electric power has increased, the losses from spoilage are great, and secondary materials are poorly utilized. It must always be remembered that the success of the fulfillment of the plans is directly dependent on the economical use of everything at the disposal of the national economy.

At the present time, an unfavorable demographic situation is observed in our republic. The second post-war generation is coming into the plants and factories, on the fields and farms, and the generation, whose youth fell into the years of the war, is leaving for deserved rest. The growth of the labor force during the 11th Five-Year-Plan will be minimal. Therefore, it is important how labor resources can be used more efficiently and the main thing--to accelerate the reduction of manual labor, which accounts for approximately 39.7 percent in industry and for even more in construction and the service sphere. We have succeeded in achieving some successes on the positive side. By comparison with the past year, there has been an increase in the rate of introduction of the achievements of science and technology into production, there was broader development of the brigade form of organization and stimulation of labor, and the establishment of the limitation of the number of workers produced certain results. Nevertheless, a purposeful program to reduce manual, especially heavy, labor will have to remain in the center of attention for a long time.

And still about one reserve, which in conditions of the intensification of production occupies by no means the last place. It does not require special expendi-

tures, but its effect is exceedingly observable. I am talking about initiative, about the creative approach of every worker to the solution of the tasks set for him. But this requires improvements in organizational work, the perfection of the style of economic activity, a review of the criteria for evaluating the work of work collectives, and the activization of socialist competition. And it is completely inadmissible that in certain industries the number of enterprises accepting counterplans decreases with every year. Also inadmissible is the correction of plans in the direction of reduced targets --which has been allowed in the past. The November Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee established the task: The plan for 1982 must not only be fulfilled, but overfulfilled. Here we cannot make do without the active support of the initiative of the masses, the assistance in the exposure and utilization of reserves, and the overcoming of shortcomings.

Let today's United Political Day take the form of a confidential discussion with people. Trust, an open and honest discussion of the important questions of party and state policy calls forth the desire to cooperate through shock work in the realization of the decisions outlined by the 26th CPSU Congress.

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REGIONAL

REPORTS ON KAZAKH OBKOM PLENUMS

Alma Ata KAZAKHSTANSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 11 Dec 81 p 2

[Article: "Attention -- To the Main Problems"]

[Text] Tselinograd. A party obkom plenum has aimed the communists and all the workers of the oblast at mobilizing internal reserves to further improve the economy. The results of the November 1981 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the tasks flowing from its decisions and the speech of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, were discussed during it.

N. Ye. Morozov, the Communist Party of Kazakhstan obkom secretary, presented the report. The oblast's industry is working steadily. The enterprises of Tselinograd and Stepnogorsk are providing the greatest growth in manufactured articles and steady indicators. Despite difficult weather conditions, the farmers have made a weighty contribution to the republic's grain balance. The livestock breeders, who have ensured a growth in the production and sale of meat, milk and eggs to the state did not work badly. The cattle and horse population has increased. All the farms have been supplied with coarse and rich fodder. The plans for the improvement of trade, personal services and other branches of the national economy are successfully being carried out.

At the same time, it was noted that individual collectives have not taken the planned frontiers. A great deal remains to be done to increase the production of agricultural and animal husbandry products. The loss of cattle is permitted, the output of younger animals is low especially in sheep breeding. The 4th Plenum of the Kazakhstan Communist Party Central Committee talked about this.

Measures were outlined to eliminate the deficiencies, raise the militancy of party organizations and successfully carry out the plans for the year and for the five-year plan on the whole.

S. Denyakin, a responsible worker from the CPSU Central Committee, participated in the plenum's work.

Gur'yev. The results of the November 1981 CPSU Central Committee and the tasks of the oblast party organization which flow from its decision and the speech of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, have been discussed at a party obkom plenum.

The speaker -- Y. K. Kushekov, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party obkom -- and the others who spoke pointed out that the communists and all the workers of Severnoye Prikaspiye are responding to the party's concern with increased work and political activity and with a search for and use of new internal reserves. The volume of construction and assembly work has increased in comparison with last year. The oblast livestock breeders obtained and kept 110 lambs for each 100 ewes. The delivery goals for milk, wool and astrakhan were fulfilled ahead of schedule.

At the same time, the plenum participants emphasized that the work level of individual party organizations does not answer the increased requirements. Individual enterprises did not cope with the tasks of raising labor productivity and decreasing the cost of products, and they are not pulling workshops and brigades, which are lagging behind, up to the level of the progressive ones. They are not concerned everywhere about raising responsibility for the job entrusted and about strengthening discipline. It is necessary to improve the use of labor, material and financial resources. Quite a few criticisms are received about the low quality of products. The volume of unfinished construction is growing in a number of trusts.

Party, soviet, trade union, and Komsomol organs must concentrate their attention on successfully completing the tasks of the first year and of the five-year plan on the whole.

Ural'sk. Oblast party organizations and all work collectives have welcomed the decisions of the November 1981 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the statements and conclusions contained in the speech of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, as a militant program for practical action. In connection with this, the tasks of party organizations were discussed during a meeting of the oblast party aktiv.

M. B. Iksanov, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party obkom, presented the report. Considerable work to improve the intensification of production, technically re-equip enterprises, and improve party direction of the economy has been performed on the steppes of the Ural region during the first year of the five-year plan. The value of industrial production has risen. The number of cattle and horses has increased, and the delivery of milk to the state has grown. More hay, haylage and silage than last year was laid in. Land under spring sowing was prepared ahead of time. The repair of equipment and the sorting of seeds is taking place successfully.

The plenum participants pointed out reserves for raising production efficiency and for the growth of labor productivity. New and long operating capacities are still being insufficiently used. Substantial shortcomings have not been eliminated in housing and cultural construction. Intensive production factors have not been put into effect on many sovkhoses and kolkhoses.

The meeting defined concrete ways to realize the tasks assigned by the party.

Taldy-Kurgan. The tasks of the oblast party organization flowing from the decisions of the November 1981 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the speech to it by Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, have been discussed during a meeting of the oblast party aktiv.

A. A. Tynybayev, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party obkom, presented the report. In carrying out the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, oblast workers are making a weighty contribution to fulfilling the five-year plan's targets. Products valued at 7.3 million rubles have been sold above the plan in eleven months. Construction workers have performed a considerable volume of work. The oblast corn growers have filled the motherland's granaries with more grain than targeted. State purchasing plans for sugar beets, potatoes, vegetables, grapes, melon crops, wool, and eggs have been overfulfilled. The volume of meat and milk deliveries has grown. The number of commonly owned livestock has grown and their productivity has been increased.

However, the organizational and ideological work of party organizations is still not completely responsive to the tasks assigned. Questions on realizing the food program and increasing the effectiveness of production and the quality of work are still not at the center of attention of party organizations and soviet and economic organs everywhere. The construction of underway projects is being performed poorly. Insufficient attention is being devoted to the development of auxiliary farms. Livestock breeding is being developed slowly. Irrigated land is not being used effectively, and some sovkhoses are not coping with targets for producing vegetables.

The meeting defined measures aimed at eliminating the deficiencies and carrying out the tasks and obligations of the five-year plan.

Kokchetav. Oblast workers are successfully completing the first year of the five-year plan. The good harvest, which was raised on the fields of the sovkhoses and kolkhoses despite difficult weather conditions, has permitted the state's granaries to be filled with more grain than planned. The collectives of industrial enterprises and construction projects have coped with the 11-month program ahead of time. The volume of meat, milk and egg purchases has grown.

These facts were cited during the party obkom plenum which discussed the results of the November 1981 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the party organization tasks, flowing from the plenum's decisions and the speech of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev.

O. S. Kuanyshev, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party obkom, presented the report. It was pointed out that the communists and all the workers of the oblast have been called upon to achieve a more rapid rise in the production of agricultural products and to take new high frontiers in the development of the economy and the sphere of cultural and personnel services for the population. The need for a further improvement in organizational and political work for the broad dissemination of the achievements of science and progressive practices, and for the resolute elimination of deficiencies was emphasized. Not all work collectives are coping with production plans and actively struggling to raise the quality of production. They treat the land and equipment carelessly and wastefully on a number of sovkhoses and kolkhoses. Exactingness towards personnel for the job entrusted is not high everywhere.

The plenum directed oblast party organizations toward resolutely eliminating the shortcomings, improving the work of directing the economy and cultural construction, and greeting the 60th anniversary of the formation of the USSR in a fitting manner.

Ust'-Kamenogorsk. The party organizations and work collectives of the oblast have done quite a bit to implement the historic decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress. Here, additional products, valued at 13.8 million rubles, have already been sold now. The output of manufactured items with the state Seal of Quality has increased, and the production of consumer goods has grown. Significantly more fixed capital has been commissioned in comparison with last year. Despite the drought, not a bad harvest of vegetables and sunflower seeds was received and the delivery plan for buckwheat was overfulfilled. The production and delivery of animal husbandry products grew.

This was mentioned during the party obkom plenum where the results of the November 1981 CPSU Central Committee Plenum and the party organization tasks flowing from its decisions and the speech of Comrade L. I. Brezhnev, general secretary of the Central Committee, were discussed.

A. K. Protozanov, first secretary of the Kazakhstan Communist Party obkom, presented the report. Shortcomings were pointed out along with accomplishments. Many enterprises have not coped with targets for selling products and have permitted a decrease in labor productivity. The scattering of resources has not been overcome in capital construction, and derangements in the periods for commissioning several projects and production capacities are being permitted. The necessary struggle against unproductive expenditures and losses of cattle is not being waged on all farms. These derelictions are explained a lot by weakness in the organizational and mass political work of a number of party committees.

Measures were defined to eliminate the deficiencies, to raise the effectiveness of production and the responsibility of cadres in improving the policy of economy and thrift in all branches of the national economy, and to increase the oblast contribution to the realization of the party's food program.

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REGIONAL

GEORGIAN SSR STRENGTHENS LAWS ON TRADE VIOLATIONS

Tbilisi ZARYA VOSTOKA in Russian 16 Dec 81 p 3

/Article: "There Will Be No Mercy for Speculators"

/Text/ The 11 November 1981 ukase of the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet complements the Criminal Code of the republic with two new provisions: Article 169/2, which introduces criminal responsibility for receiving illegal remuneration from citizens in return for performing work relating to services to the population, and Article 169/3, which provides for responsibility for infractions of trade regulations.

At the request of the GruzINFORM correspondent, the Georgian SSR Minister of Justice, A. Shushanashvili comments below on these additions.

Concern for the workingman--for promoting his welfare in all ways--is the principal goal of activities of the communist party and the Soviet state. Of paramount importance to the party's efforts to improve national welfare is the expansion of production, improvement in the quality of consumer goods, as well as the development of service areas. In recent years services to the population have been increasingly expanded and their facilities improved, and the monetary demand of Soviet citizens for varied goods and services is being more fully satisfied. However, the consumer trading and service system is still beset with major shortcomings and unsolved problems. Considerable harm to the cause of providing services to consumers is caused by individuals who, through all sorts of machinations and illegal actions strive to give as little as possible and filch as much as possible from the state, shirk useful and productive work, and deceive honest working people and live at their expense. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev declared at the 26th CPSU Congress, "And this means that every organizational, financial, and judicial means should be used to close all the loopholes for parasitism, bribe-taking, speculation, dishonestly earned income, and all attempts at stealing socialist property."

This is also the goal of the new legislation introduced by the ukase of 11 November 1981 of the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet.

Article 169/2 of the Criminal Code establishes criminal responsibility for workers--not officials--of enterprises, institutions, or organizations who extort illegal remuneration from citizens for performing a job or providing commercial, public-feeding, communal, medical, transport or other services that lie within a worker's sphere of service duties. Such actions are punishable by corrective labor for a period of up to 1 year or by a fine of up to 100 rubles.

If such actions are repeated or performed on a large scale, they shall be punished by deprivation of freedom for up to 3 years or by a fine of up to 500 rubles.

In analyzing this Article it should be chiefly borne in mind that it concerns the criminal responsibility of persons who are not officials but merely perform occupational-professional and production functions. This means, e.g. store sales personnel, taxi drivers, hospital nurses, fabric cutters, train car conductors, waiters, beauticians, auxiliary workers, etc. Prior to the adoption of this ukase these individuals were not criminally accountable for receiving illegal remuneration. They could be penalized only by administrative, disciplinary, or social action. Now this gap in criminal legislation has been filled.

As for officials, i.e. individuals performing the functions of representatives of the authorities or occupying posts connected with the fulfillment of organizational-directive or administrative-managerial functions, they are criminally accountable for bribe-taking with respect to the activities specified in Article 169/2 of the Criminal Code.

Extortion of illegal remuneration is construed as not only a directly expressed demand, posed to a citizen, by a consumer-services worker for payment for performing a specific job or providing a specific service that lies within the worker's official duties, but also a deliberate creation of conditions forcing the citizen to make an illegal payment in order to prevent consequences harmful to a citizen's legitimate interests. For example, this applies when a taxi driver refuses to follow the route specified by his passenger and agrees to do so only after he receives or is promised extra fare.

Illegal remuneration is construed as receiving illegal emoluments such as money, manufactured goods or foodstuffs, etc. It makes no difference whether such remuneration is received before or after the service needed by a citizen is performed.

Repeated reception of illegal remuneration is construed as the performance of activities of this kind at least twice, or as the simultaneous reception of illegal remuneration from two or more citizens, or as the reception of illegal remuneration from two or more citizens, or as the reception of illegal remuneration by an individual who has previously been convicted of an analogous crime and whose period of judicial probation still has not lawfully expired or been annulled.

As for large-scale offense this is construed as receiving remuneration in excess of 200 rubles.

The second addition to the republic's Criminal Code--Article 169/3--establishes criminal responsibility for trading violations. Pursuant to this Article, sales of goods from warehouses, bases, and subsidiary premises of trading and public-feeding enterprises and organizations, as well as concealment of goods from the buying public with the object of selling them for personal profit is punishable by corrective labor for up to 1 year with deprivation of the right to engage in certain official duties or activities in the trading enterprises (organizations), while at public feeding enterprises (organizations) this may be substituted with a fine of R100. Second offenders are punished by deprivation of freedom for up to 3 years or a fine of up to R500.

Criminal responsibility for certain trading violations has long been established. For example, the Criminal Code of the Georgian SSR contains provisions spelling out accountability for the deception of buyers, for infractions of the regulations governing trade in alcoholic beverages, for the production and sale of shoddy goods, etc. Until the new ukase had been adopted, however, sales of goods from warehouses, bases, and subsidiary premises, as well as concealment of goods, had not been covered by the criminal law.

The establishment of criminal responsibility for the operations specified above will make possible effective counteraction against those employees of the trading and public feeding apparatus who conceal goods from purchasers and, for motives of profit or for other personal reasons, sell them under the counter, as well as against speculators who, as a rule, acquire scarce goods from trading workers and make money at the expense of working people.

The scope of Article 169/3 of the Criminal Code of the Georgian SSR, unlike that of Article 169/2, extends to all trading and public-feeding workers regardless of whether they do or do not occupy official administrative positions.

In conclusion, I wish to point out that no law, no matter how good, can work of itself. As Comrade L.I. Brezhnev pointed out at the 26th CPSU Congress: "Any law is workable only if it is carried out--carried out everywhere and by everyone." The effectiveness of the 11 November 1981 ukase of the Presidium of the Georgian SSR Supreme Soviet depends on its correct construction and practical application, on the detection of and appropriate response to every single instance of bribe-taking and extortion. And this can be accomplished only through the joint effort of the Soviet, control, and administrative agencies as well as the broad public.

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